



CONNECTICUT STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

# NEWSLETTER

July 2022

Volume 3



## **Connecticut Ranks Among the Best in Campaign Finance**

The Coalition for Integrity (a national nonprofit, nonpartisan organization) recently released its State Campaign Finance Index 2022 and scored Connecticut fourth in the nation!

The full report can be viewed [here](#).



# NEWSLETTER

## Revised CEP Documentation and Fixes Fact Sheet Available

In the three months leading up to the start of the grant application period, we had nearly 60 committees submit for a pre-application review (PAR) of their grant application. We used the PAR process to analyze the most common mistakes that committees make and then revised our materials to ensure they are drawing your attention to these most common issues and how to fix them. To that end, please see our revised CEP Documentation and Fixes Fact Sheet, which you can view [here](#).

We encourage all treasurers and staff of campaigns that have not already received a grant to review this fact sheet now and to revisit it periodically as you go through the QC gathering and documenting phase of your campaign. After reviewing the fact sheet, we also encourage you to look through your QCs and accompanying documentation and see if you have any of these issues. If you do, now is a good time to reach out to contributors to facilitate fixes, when their contributions are fresh on their minds, rather than waiting until the days leading up to when you plan to apply.

If you have any questions about anything you read in the fact sheet, please let us know. We are here for you every step of the way.





# NEWSLETTER

## CEP Grant Amounts and LAPIGs

For those qualified candidate committees that received the lesser applicable partial initial grant amount ("LAPIG"), please note that we are in the final stages of confirming which districts do and do not have primaries. We are also waiting for CORE-CT, our payment process system, to reopen after the close of the fiscal year. As soon as this occurs, we will issue your campaign its remaining grant amount, if applicable. We expect this to be done by mid-July.



## Child Care Regulation Approved, Documentation Form Now Available

During the 2021 session, the Legislature passed Public Act 21-49 which clarified that expenditures for child care services are permissible for candidates not participating in the Citizens' Election Program and made them permissible for candidates participating in the Program when they are rendered to a candidate for the care of any child under thirteen years of age and for whom the candidate is the parent or legal guardian. The services must be necessary as a direct result of campaign activity that would not exist but for the candidate's campaign and compensation must be reasonable and customary for the services rendered.

Candidates who are participating in the Citizens' Election Program are permitted to have the campaign pay for such services up to the qualifying contribution threshold for their office.

The Public Act required the Commission to amend its regulations accordingly. The Commission's proposed regulation was recently approved and codified. The final regulation can be viewed [here](#).

Commission staff has also posted a sample form for candidates to use if they seek to have their campaign pay or reimburse them for child care services. The form can be found [here](#).





# NEWSLETTER



## Quick Reminder: CEP Campaigns Must Do Their Own Fundraising

For CEP candidates to qualify for a public grant each cycle, they must demonstrate public support for their candidacies from their own constituents. Please remember that only the candidate committees seeking to participate in the Citizens' Election Program may solicit and receive the contributions they use to qualify for a grant.

Political committees, party committees, and special interest groups may not solicit contributions to be used by the candidate to qualify for the Program.

State central committees, town committees, and legislative leadership and caucus committees may still assist candidates. These party and political committees may pay for meet-and-greets for the candidate, advisors or consultants to assist the candidate, and, after a primary, or now, if there is no primary in the particular race, pay for certain advertisements called "party candidate listings." The candidate must, however, be present at any such meet-and-greet to solicit and receive their own contributions, and the party candidate listings may not ask for contributions to a CEP campaign or provide a direct link to a CEP campaign's online contribution page.

## All CEP Online Training Videos Now Updated for 2022

We have finished revising our online training video modules for this election cycle. If you have received your grant, you would be best served to review Committee Expenditures, Expenditures by Other Sources, and Compensation, Reimbursements, and Consultants at this time as you enter the spending phase of your campaign. The videos may be found [here](#).

For those who have not yet applied, you will find the other modules helpful – such as Raising Funds, Raising Qualifying Contributions Online – Parts 1 and 2, and Grant Application Requirements.



## Attention CEP Candidates in a Primary!

**Your grant application deadline is 5:00 pm on July 15, 2022.**



# NEWSLETTER

## Primary Participants – Upcoming CEP 10/11 Deadline and Weekly Supplemental Filings

### ***Upcoming CEP 10/11 Deadline for Primary Participants***

Candidates in a primary are reminded that their Affidavit of Intent to Abide by Expenditure Limits and Other Program Requirements (SEEC Form CEP 10) or, in the case of those opting not to participate, their Affidavit of Intent Not to Abide by Expenditure Limits (SEEC Form CEP 11), is due by **4:00 pm on July 15, 2022**.

*Candidates not in a primary have until 4:00 pm on September 29, 2022 to submit their CEP 10/11.*

All General Assembly and statewide office candidates are required to submit one of these affidavits, with the exception of candidates who have filed a 1B exemption from forming a candidate committee.

### ***Weekly Supplemental Filings Set to Begin for Most Primary Participants***

Every candidate committee in a primary in which there is at least one candidate participating in the CEP must file weekly supplemental statements with the Commission beginning with the second Thursday following the July quarterly filing through the Thursday before the primary. The deadlines are as follows:

Name of Report	Period Covered	Filing Deadline
First Weekly Supplemental Primary	07/01/22 – 07/19/22	07/21/22
Second Weekly Supplemental Primary	07/20/22 – 07/26/22	07/28/22
Final Weekly Supplemental Primary	07/27/22 – 08/02/22	08/04/22

For candidate committees in a primary in which neither candidate is participating, the 7<sup>th</sup> day preceding election filing is due on August 2, 2022, covering the period of July 1, 2022 through July 31, 2022.





# NEWSLETTER

## 24-Hour Independent Expenditure Reporting

The Commission would like to remind committees, groups, and individuals seeking to make independent expenditures for statewide office and General Assembly candidates in excess of \$1,000 that we are now in the period in which such expenditures, whether made or incurred, must be reported within **24 hours**.

For more information, please see our [webpage](#) on independent expenditure reporting or give us a call at 860-256-2940.

## JULY QUARTERLY FILING DUE MONDAY JULY 11, 2022

The filing period for the July quarterly report (July 10 Filing) commenced July 1, 2022 and ends July 11, 2022. All state central committees, town committees, political committees, and open candidate committees must file this report regardless of financial activity. The filing must cover the period starting with the first day after the period covered by the last filing through June 30, 2022. Please note that committees that registered on or after July 1, 2022 are not required to file the July quarterly statement unless they had financial activity that occurred on or before June 30, 2022.

As always, please review the posted [Filing Calendars](#) on our website for more details.





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## Minor Party and Petitioning Candidates Interested in Participating in the CEP

To qualify for a grant from the CEP, candidates must demonstrate they have adequate support from the public by meeting a three-part threshold – (1) they must raise an aggregate amount of small-dollar qualifying contributions, which varies depending on the office sought; (2) they must receive qualifying contributions from a certain number of individuals residing in their district or a certain amount from individuals residing in the state, which varies depending on the office sought; and (3) they must obtain access to the ballot.

A major party is defined as a political party whose candidate for Governor in the most recent gubernatorial election received at least 20% of the whole number of votes cast or a political party having a number of enrolled members on the active voter registry list of at least 20% of the total number of enrolled members of all parties on the active voter registry list at the time of the last gubernatorial election. A candidate who has obtained the nomination of a major party is eligible for a full general election grant base amount.

Minor party candidates and petitioning candidates are also eligible for public grants. A minor party candidate is eligible for a full general election grant if the candidate has obtained the nomination of a minor party whose candidate seeking election for the same

office in the same district at the last preceding regular election received at least 20% of the votes cast for that office. A petitioning candidate is also eligible for a full general election grant if the candidate has obtained ballot access by utilizing the nominating petition procedure and has obtained petition signatures from electors equaling at least 20% of the votes cast for that office in the prior general election.

A minor party candidate is eligible for two-thirds of a full general election grant if the minor party's previous candidate received at least 15% of the votes cast for the office and one-third of a general election grant if the party's previous candidate received at least 10% of the votes cast for that office. Similarly, a petitioning candidate is eligible for a two-thirds grant if they obtain petition signatures by electors equaling at least 15% of the votes cast for that office in the prior election and one-third of a general election grant if they collect signatures equaling at least 10% of the last votes cast.

If you are a minor party candidate or a petitioning candidate and are interested in participating in the CEP, please contact your elections officer as soon as possible so we can go over the process in greater detail with you and your campaign staff.



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## CONTACT US

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## Staff Spotlight

Elections Officer Mark Severance left the agency in June to pursue another career opportunity. The Commission and staff thank Mark for his service to the Commission and to the many candidates and treasurers he assisted.

The Commission and staff also wish to welcome Jonathan Ortiz to the agency as an IT Analyst and to congratulate Accounts Examiner Krysta Palozie and Fiscal Administrative Officer Catherine Santiago, who both recently welcomed daughters.